



News Release

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Spring Mountains National Recreation Area
INCLUDES MT. CHARLESTON AREA

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Beth Moore 702-839-5567
Cell: 702-528-3488

Open House Showcasing Forest Service's New Visitor Center Exhibits

Las Vegas, NV... The US Forest Service and Sharon K. Schafer, a local award-winning artist, will be showcasing the new murals and educational displays at the Kyle Canyon Visitor Center in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area (NRA). During the open house, US Forest Service employees and Schafer will be on hand to answer questions about the exhibits and offer additional insight to the unique natural and cultural history of the Spring Mountains NRA.

The educational displays invite viewers to take a closer look at nature's exquisite complexity and offers stories and illustrations to further explain the Spring Mountains NRA. The focal point of the educational exhibits is a 10 foot long mural that stretches across the back of the visitor center. The full-color mural depicts the ponderosa pine forest with more than 50 species of plants and animals found in the Spring Mountains NRA. A children's discovery booklet, free to visitors, helps the young viewer explore the mural and the forest environment in an effort to teach them more about the area.

Schafer is the owner and operator of Skydance Studio located in Boulder City, Nevada. Her work has included educational art commissioned by groups such as the Audubon Society, Bureau of Land Management, the Howard Hughes Corporation, National Park Service, and Nevada Arts Council, among others. Her in-depth knowledge, attention to detail and passion for educating and inspiring through art are reflected in her work.

Open House Information:

Who: The US Forest Service and Sharon Schafer
What: Open House to unveil new educational visitor center exhibits
When: **Wednesday, October 4, 2006, from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.**
Where: Forest Service Visitor Center in Kyle Canyon
Directions from Las Vegas: Take US-95 north, turn left at Kyle Canyon Road Hwy. 157 and drive approximately 18 miles. The center is located on the left side of the road.

Light refreshments will be provided courtesy of the Southern Nevada Interpretive Association.

This project is funded through the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act. Contact Beth Moore, Public Affairs Specialist, for more information on this release at 702-839-5567.

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